# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4266
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2017
Affordable Medicines
Maragatham Smt. K.

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the Government has made 700 medicines affordable for the poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also true that the Government had taken adequate steps to ensure that the doctors prescribe only generic medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b): National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals has reduced the prices of 776 medicines under Revised Schedule I to the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO) which is based on National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2015. The slab-wise reduction in the prices is as under:

Slabwise Percentage reduction with respect to Maximum price Number of formulations
0-5% 194
5-10% 129
10-15% 94
15-20% 90
20-25% 82
25-30% 62
30-35% 43
35-40% 24
Above 40% 58
Total 776

(c) & (d): Medical Council of India (MCI) has notified an amendment in Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 vide notification dated 21.09.2016, which stipulates that "Every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs". MCI has further issued a circular on 21.04.2017 vide which all the Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP) under the Indian Medical Council (IMC) Act have been directed to comply with the aforesaid provisions.